

# TRIBUTE TO ALFRED L. WATKINS

(Mr. ISAKSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand today and pay tribute to a man of great vision in my district, Alfred Watkins.

Twenty years ago, he took over the leadership of a brand-new high school in my community. He built a music program from 78 participants to the largest music program in public education east of the Mississippi River. His children have won the John Philip Sousa Award, the Louis Sudler Flag Award, a Grammy for the best music program in a public school, twice marched in the Grand Parade at the Tournament of Roses, the World's Fair, and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

But is his legacy the great music or the great music his children perform? No. It is countless numbers of young people who, through the discipline of participation and through the appreciation of music, are changing the lives of other people all over this country.

Alfred Watkins has been a visionary leader who has been great for our community and great for its children. Dr. Theodore Hesburgh once said, "Leadership requires that you have a vision, for without a vision, you cannot blow an uncertain trumpet." It is ironic that Alfred Watkins was a trumpeter, and his music are my district's children, who are a symphony of perfection in my district and in the lives of countless thousands of Americans.

# CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY THREATENS HOMELAND SECURITY

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the House is now throwing themselves as fast as they can at developing a homeland security plan. Somehow, however, we have forgotten half the problem. The problem of the external dangers we all know about, but Pogo, the cartoon character, once said, "We have discovered the enemy, and he is us."

We forget what the internal threats in this country really are. What we have watched on Wall Street is threatening the homeland security of all of us, our pensions, our health care, the economy, and whether we can retire. All those issues are in danger because of, as some of my colleagues say, a few bad apples.

In Washington State, where the apple is really the symbol of the State, we know if you have a bad apple in the barrel, it can ruin the whole barrel. The American people recognize that the barrel has bad apples in it, like the leadership of Halliburton and the leadership of Enron and the leadership of Harken and the leadership of all these companies.

Maybe we should throw some of those apples out of the barrel.

# RESPONSIBLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, it is summertime, and out West it is the height of the fire season. Every day we ask our brave fire fighters to risk their lives to put out these dangerous blazes. Unfortunately, their job is made more difficult primarily due to extreme environmental groups.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that nearly half of the 2002 projects to reduce wildfires and wildfire risks have been blocked by lawsuits brought by these same extreme environmental groups. These delays have significantly slowed efforts to remove the tinder-dry overgrowth out of our Federal forests and contributed greatly to the West's worst fire year on record. With half of the fire season left, more than 3 million acres have been lost to forest fires and wildfires, lost for all Americans to enjoy, lost for 100 years to come.

Today, the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health of the Committee on Resources will hold a hearing to address this issue. We need to find a way to end the misguided crusade against responsible forest management. Only then will we be able to prevent destructive wildfires that decimate our national forests.

# BUSH DISCOVERS IMPORTANCE OF CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, like a preacher welcoming every convert to the fold, we welcome all converts, no matter how belated their interest in controlling corporate corruption.

To date, this Administration's "See no evil, hear no evil" approach has produced and condoned a steady stream of corporate misconduct in this country. So long as more special-interest lobbyists are appointed to fill key regulatory roles and the Administration continues to conspire with House Republicans to undermine every genuine reform that is proposed, the President's newly professed concern amounts to little more than a fresh coat of paint on rotten wood, very rotten wood.

The American people can see right through the thin paint and see the damage that is caused to retirement savings, to investors' earnings, and to taxpayers that are cheated by corporations that use accounting tricks to avoid paying their fair share.

Our patience has been exploited and our trust has been taxed by the cul-

pable inaction, indifference, and complacency of this Administration and its House Republican allies.

# LEXINGTON COUNTY PEACH FESTIVAL

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolina is the second largest producer of peaches in the Nation, and yesterday fresh peaches from South Carolina were hand delivered to every congressional office.

I would like to commend the efforts of the South Carolina Farm Bureau, the South Carolina Peach Council, and the interns and staffers for their efforts yesterday in delivering the peaches on Capitol Hill.

Last Thursday, I was honored to be the guest Speaker at the 44th annual Lexington County Peach Festival in Gilbert, South Carolina. This wonderful event is held every July 4th, a time for patriotic families to come together to celebrate the independence of our great Nation. The festival features a parade with wonderful floats and, of course, fresh peaches, peach ice cream, and peach cobbler available for everyone.

I would like to thank all the supporters and organizers of the Lexington County Peach Festival and especially the festival coordinator, Raymond Boozer, along with Gilbert mayor, Phil Price; First Lady Frances Price, and long-time parade coordinator, R. J. Taylor.

My family has attended 32 Lexington County Peach Festivals, and I look forward to many more years of this special July 4th celebration.

□ 1030

# CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. HINOJOSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, recent corporate scandals, including Enron, WorldCom, Tyco, Merck, Rite-Aid, Xerox, and so many other corporations have demonstrated the need for our government to take action and bring order, justice, and trust back to our Nation's corporate infrastructure. Criminal practices put in place by high-paid executives demonstrate irresponsibility, hurt investors and employees, jeopardize innocent rank-and-file-worker pensions and retirement systems, and must come to an end.

We need to send strong legislation from this House that will make crooked accounting, cooked financial records, and careless corporate executives a thing of the past.

To do this effectively, we must craft legislation that puts fear in would-be corporate criminals. Stiff prison sentences for white collar criminals are a must and not an option.